FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON OAS TALKS

PY270627 Buenos Aires Radio Rivadavia in Spanish 0140 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Exclusive interview with Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez at end of 26 April OAS session in Washington by (Luisa Malmaya) and (Juan Orant) -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] What is your feeling about the expressions of solidarity of your Latin American counterparts and ambassadors?

[Answer] I have found much more Latin American solidarity than I expected and more than I had hoped for. The reaction of Latin America in favor of Argentina has been very touching.

[Question] Well, now I am not asking you as the foreign minister of Argentina, I am asking you as Nicanor Costa Mendez, a diplomat and a human being, how did you feel when the entire hall was gradually standing up applauding you? How did you feel then?

[Answer] Well, just like one of the 27 million Argentines, nothing else.

[Question] Had you been expecting a reaction like that?

[Answer] Never. Not even in my moments of delirium could I think we were going to receive a standing ovation for our position.

[Question] The initial unanimous declaration of the foreign ministers indicating that peace must prevail in the continent is very important. Is it already an auspicious beginning?

[Answer] Yes, it is already an auspicious declaration for peace and right, and I added the right which emerges from the Rio de Janeiro treaty.

[Question] Doctor, I also would like to talk a little about the great contrast this afternoon between you being applauded as anyone very seldom has been applauded at the OAS, and especially in a crisis like this. A short while later Mr Haig received one the coldest recptions that can be given in an American gathering like the OAS, and it was given to the U.S. secretary of state....

[Answer] With appropriate respect, I believe the U.S. secretary of state (?was not applauded) for one thing: It was first said that the Malvinas cause was the cause of a government which had lost its position and that was playing its last card in order to remain in power. The rallies in the Plaza de Mayo have demonstrated that the Malvinas Islands are a national cause, it is not a cause of the government. The government has nothing to do with this. This is the cause of the Argentine people. And what happened here today shows that this is not just the cause of a single government, not just the cause of Argentina; it is the cause of America.

[Question] Doctor, trying to foresee what could happen in the future -- and of course you clearly explained this on arriving here, that you are seeking solidarity -- and much has been said here about the inter-American system....

[Answer] Look, the inter-American system, or the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty cannot be implemented to solve a dispute between a country which had signed the treaty and another (?which had not). This treaty will be limited to telling or to urging Great Britain to withdraw from the area established by the treaty. I myself, despite the enormous joy I feel as an Argentine over what happened today, at this support that our country received from Peru, from Panama, Brazil, Venezuela, from Honduras and others, we cannot stop being realistic, because we still have a difficult struggle ahead.

[Question] We have received reports from Buenos Aires that in turn were transmitted by our agencies, that U.S. President Ronald Reagan would intervene directly in the mediation. We would like to know whether this report can be verified?

[Answer] No; I have no official report. I understand that Mr Reagan would like to make a peace proposal to the two parties. But I do not have any official report. I have no official report to confirm what is circulating in the capital of (?Argentina).

[Question] Of course it will be speculation, but we have to ask you, Mr Foreign Minister, if it does take place, what scope for action could the U.S. President have in order to be able [words indistinct]?

[Answer] You are right, but I cannot answer that speculation [words indistinct] but the scope does exist. There will always be scope for negotiation, even though armed confrontations begin -- and I hope that will not take place, since we diplomats will continue working, even though there are confrontations.

[Question] Can we be realistic in the sense that President Reagan can have some points with which he can stop [word indistinct]?

[Answer] He might have.

[Question] Dr Costa Mendez, in case the war action which already exists at this moment aggravates, does Argentina foresee the possibility of calling on the UN Security Council?

[Answer] I cannot answer that either. We are studying this possibility, and if I answer your question I would be [words indistinct].

[Question] The differences in this regard are (?based) on the fact that our adversaries, in this case [words indistinct] by indirect but well-related means, speak about the possibility of calling on the United Nations in order to neutralize the United Nations.

[Answer] Any comment I might make about what they say could reveal a position, which I would not like to do.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, during the past 10 days, I would say, there were some terms used that exceeded the vocabulary used in diplomatic circles, of diplomatic respect. I remember when you came to New York the first time when this crisis began, U.S. reporters asked you directly, right to your face, noting that Mrs Thatcher had said certain things, and asking what you had to say and so forth, and you answered something like this: I, as a diplomat, as a person, have no reason to refer to or to offend anyone, or even to make reference to that. Well, you were very fine; let us say, as we said before, that you have shown style. The accusations circulating then have increased now. What do you do to maintain your calm in a situation like this?

[Answer] It is very simple, because I have justice and reason on my side.

[Question] Well, that is an answer with a very few well-chosen words, isn't that so, Luisa?

[Malmaya] Yes, and I would like to ask Dr Costa Mendez, aware that through Radio Rivadavia he will reach the whole country, for a final thought, or a message to all the Argentine people, who are following very closely and with great interest the negotiations he is carrying out at this moment in Washington.

[Answer] I would tell all my fellow citizens [words indistinct] to be aware that great undertakings are always difficult, and to overcome what has been in chaos for so many centuries, for so many years, and for so many generations, is not easy. But to achieve what has been sought for so long, and which has demanded a tremendous effort, is one of the greatest pleasures that (?can exist). And the Argentines, regardless of the efforts they will make, when they obtain the full exercise and the recognition of the sovereignty over the Malvinas, will have great satisfaction.

COLOMBIA'S LEMOS: UK ACTION NEAR 'CATASTROPIC'

PY261555 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1517 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Bogota, 26 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simonds today said the new situation created by the Malvinas Islands conflict following the British armed action on South Georgia Island is "little less than catastrophic." Lemos Simonds made a statement from Washington for the Colombian radio stations. Lemos is in Washington to attend an OAS foreign ministers meeting requested by Argentina.

The foreign minister said that at this critical moment an appeal based on all legal measures specified by international law should be made to consolidate an environment of peace. He stressed that following yesterday's British action "tragic and unpredictable circumstances are observed."

Lemos dismissed a possible deterioration of relations between Colombia and Argentina following the abstention by the Turbay Ayala government in last week's vote in Washington on an Argentine request for an OAS foreign ministers meeting to discuss the possible invocation of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR).

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT SUPPORTS ARGENTINE POSITION

PA240025 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2138 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Quito, 23 Apr (EFE) -- The Andean Parliament supports Argentina in its conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands, according to its president, Ecuadorean Raul Baca. In declaring its official support for the Argentine position, the legislative body, comprised of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, pointed to the "immediate need to eliminate the colonialist vestiges that prevail in the world."

The parliamentarians of the five countries also condemned the "preparations for war" by Great Britain and exhorted "all peoples and international organizations to spend every effort in search for a peaceful solution" of the controvery.

LATIN AMERICA PARLIAMENT BACKS ARGENTINA

PA240315 Paris AFP in Spanish 2239 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Bogota, 23 Apr (AFP) -- The Latin American Parliament will support Argentina in everything within the realm of possibility to recover the Malvinas Islands, and at the OAS foreign ministers meeting "it will confirm its position concerning the Anglo-Argentine conflict." Colombian Senator Gilberto Avila, president of the Latin American Parliament, told AFP that "the only sovereign over the Malvinas Islands is Argentina."

DRAFT SANCTIONS AGAINST UK REPORTED UNDER STUDY

PY262317 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2119 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Washington, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- A draft including hemispheric sanctions against Great Britain started circulating this afternoon among the delegations attending the plenum of member countries of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR], aside from the final resolution which may be issued -- in response to the British aggression against a member country of the TIAR, Argentina.

Officials from some of the delegations from Latin American countries -- most of them represented here by their own foreign ministers -- today studies a document which provides for, as punishment, compensation for Argentina's military and economic expenditure that has been caused by Great Britain since the justified recovery of the Malvinas and southern archipelagoes on 2 April 1982.

COMMUNIQUE DENIES BRITISH LANDING ON FALKLANDS

PY270454 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0441 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta informs the people of the nation that news dispatches sent out by foreign press agencies allegedly reporting a landing on the Malvinas are completely false.

This propaganda is part of the campaign orchestrated by Great Britain in order to confuse international public opinion, to satisfy demands in its internal politics, to influence international forums in which the South Atlantic crisis is being discussed, and to try to weaken Argentina's will.

SOURCES SAY FIGHTING CONTINUES ON SOUTH GEORGIA

Junta Communique No 33

PY270448 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0440 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Military Junta Communique No 33]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- The military junta reports to the people of the nation that the details of reports from London about the alleged surrendering of all the soldiers in charge of defending San Pedro Island are inaccurate.

Information received after those reports indicate that the navy special forces are continuing to hold their positions in the area of Port Leith despite the efforts made by attackers superior in number.

Airlift Attempts Reported

PY270656 Buenos Aires Radio Rivadavia in Spanish 0634 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Long-range helicopters of the Argentine Navy are operating around San Pedro Island, South Georgia, in order to establish an airlift with that island. According to information heard by ham operators in Rio Gallegos, the operations are aimed at supplying food, medicine and materiel to the military forces defending the island against British assault troops.

It is worth recalling that Sunday a large number of troops of the British Royal Navy landed in Grytviken after a confrontation and that, due to the British numerical superiority, the Argentine forces withdrew toward the interior of the island.

Due to the weather conditions prevailing in this area since last week, the airplanes of the Argentine Air Force and Navy were not able to carry out their normal activities. The broadcasts heard by ham radios in Rio Gallegos indicate that long-range helicopters of the Navy are carrying out reconnaissance missions over San Pedro Island aimed at setting up an airlift in order to provide support to the Argentine military forces in the next few hours.

AFP REPORTS TROOPS MOVING TO COAST BORDER AREAS

PY261430 Paris AFP in Spanish 1322 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Comodoro Rivadavia, Argentina, 26 Apr (AFP) -- According to information released today in this city, 1,800 km south of Buenos Aires, during the past few hours numerous troops from all over the country reinforced the units stationed along the Argentine Atlantic coast, while several coastal cities in the southern Santa Cruz Province has been placed on status of yellow alert. Information on the clashes in the South Georgia Islands has caused all the southern cities to establish a tight vigilance, while the authorities have adopted exceptional measures to control and safeguard the centers of essential services, such as electricity, gas and water.

In Rio Gallegos -- capital of Santa Cruz Province -- Puerto San Julian and Puerto Deseado (located at 2,500, 2,300 and 2,100 km south of Buenos Aires respectively) a greater movement of troops than that registered during the past few days could be observed.

In particular it was pointed out that cavalry troops coming from the north have arrived to replace the infantry units stationed on the coast. These troops, in turn, were moving to border zones. According to some estimates the number of soldiers stationed in Santa Cruz Province surpasses 30,000.

GOVERNMENT DENIES EVACUATION OF SANTA CRUZ

PY270737 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0452 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Rio Gallegos, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- The Government of Santa Cruz Province tonight denied that there is any possibility of a massive evacuation of the provincial population, as had been circulated by journalistic circles; and it said in this respect that there is no reason which could prompt any alteration in the normal functioning of the various local activities.

In a communique it clarified that the Santa Cruz population, the same as the soldiers who are struggling at the front, will know how to take their proper stand with tranquility and decision.

It is fitting to note that the operation of air services is absolutely normal, just like the other activities taking place in this province.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE BEING PREPARED IN SOUTH

PY261540 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1406 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 26 Apr (NA) -- The 150 physicians residing here have been ordered not to leave the city in case their services may be required as a consequence of the bellicose actions in the southern area. In the meantime all patients who were not in serious conditions in the hospitals were sent home in order to make as many possible beds available.

The arrival of surgery equipment which has been acquired for the regional hospital, as well as great quantity of medicine could be observed in this city. Simultaneously a member of the "civil defense" team reported that there are underground shelters in this city in the case of an eventual attack and also stated that the areas which could be attacked by the enemy "are several kilometers away from the urban center."

GALTIERI MEETS PERUVIAN INTELLIGENCE CHIEF

PY262328 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- It has been learned in military circles that the president, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, today granted a special audience to the Peruvian Army's intelligence chief, Brig Gen Jose Francisco Olivera Larrivier, together with the chief of G2, intelligence, of the Argentine Army's chief of staff, Brig Gen Alfredo Sotera. The visitor is here in his professional role.

NO CONFIRMATION OF POSSIBLE HAIG VISIT

PY270133 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0105 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (NA) -- Press Secretary Rodolfo Baltierrez has not confirmed but neither has he denied, the possibility that Secretary of State Alexander Haig will travel to Buenos Aires to continue with his "good offices" mission. When the official was asked tonight about this possibility, he answered: "The answer lies within the secret of diplomatic intricacies."

SOVIET ENVOY COMMENTS ON BRITISH ATTACK

PY261448 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1400 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (TELAM) -- Soviet Ambassador Sergey Striganov today stated that it is unacceptable for Great Britain to attempt to bring the southern islands back to a colonial status by force. The diplomat made the above remark on leaving San Martin Palace at the end of a 45-minute meeting with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Enrique Ros. He said that the Soviet position will not be negative to Argentina but made it clear that his presence at the Foreign Ministry was related to issues which were in no way connected to the Argentine-British conflict.

EAST BLOC ENVOYS BRIEFED ON FALKLANDS 22 APR

PY230922 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2155 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Apr (TELAM) -- The Foreign Ministry has summoned all ambassadors from Eastern Europe to brief them on the current status of the Argentine-British conflict over the Malvinas Islands.

Heads of diplomatic missions from the following countries met with the director of the department for Eastern Europe: Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Albania, GDR, Bulgaria, Soviet Union, Romania and Poland.

Speaking to newsmen, the diplomats in general agreed on expressing the need for a peaceful solution to the conflict, and most of them mentioned that their countries' positions are in favor of decolonization.

Czechoslovak Ambassador Vladimir Pavlicek spoke with finality. He said that he had told Mr Conti that since this matter deals with decolonization, "I am convinced that our government is in favor of Argentina in this specific case in which the Argentine just, undeniably nonnegotiable rights are at stake."

Albanian charge d'affaires (Petraq Vasi) has said that the problem affects the Argentine people, and since the Malvinas are part of their territory, they will have to decide what should be done with what is theirs and expressed his hope that the conflict would be solved without military intervention.

Hungarian Ambassador Roberto Lederer said that his government's position since 2 April has been against colonialism and for a solution which would prevent an armed confrontation.

For his part, GDR Ambassador Johanned Gompert said his country had supported the 1960 UN resolution on decolonization and has always acted accordingly. He added that they would support any solution achieved through dialogue.

Soviet Ambassador Sergey Striganov declined to answer questions by newsmen about his country's position on the conflict with Great Britain.

The remaining Ambassadors Zivko Knezevic, Yugoslavia -- who declined to make any remarks -- Gheorghe Apostol, Romania; and Czeslaw Limont, Poland, also received the Foreign Ministry's report and the appropriate explanations on the negotiations conducted by Argentina to find a diplomatic solution to the Malvinas issue.

UN ENVOY SUBMITS ACCUSATION AGAINST BRITAIN

PY270751 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1915 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (NA) -- The Argentine Government has accused Great Britain before the UN Security Council "of seriously jeopardizing international peace and security" by attacking South Georgia Island, according to a document released here today.

The note submitted by Argentine Ambassador Eduardo Roca has requested that this document be included in the council's treatment of the conflict between Argentina and Great Britain. The accusation was submitted last night but the text of the document was released today. This is the text of the document:

"I have the honor of addressing Your Excellency on express instructions of my government. In relation to my prior reports regarding the situation of the Malvinas, South Georgia and South Sandwich islands, I feel obliged to convey that: The Government of Great Britain and Northern Ireland -- which began an aggression with the deployment of a naval fleet including nuclear submarines and with a naval and air blockade of part of Argentine territory -- has begun today, 25 April 1982, an armed aggression with naval ships and helicopters against the South Georgia Island which are part of Argentine territory. This aggression began in the morning with an attack on an Argentine submarine which was on the surface unloading supplies, medicine and mail in Grytviken port and was followed by a constant bombardment of this port by British warships. The defensive forces withstood a constant bombardment for more than 4 hours from the British ship "Exeter" in addition to incursions from heavily-armed helicopters which machinegunned the defensive positions. After a tactical withdrawal of short duration, the 'Exeter' took station near Port Leith with the support of units of the task force (a tanker, a troop transport, a logistical support ship) presumably for a new assault on the Argentine positions northeast of Grytviken. Regarding the events at Port Leith northeast of Grytviken: considering the small unit stationed there, a decision was made to resist until its defensive capacity is exhausted.

"The Argentine Government would like to emphasize that this aggression took place at a time when negotiations were being carried out with the participation of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. The negotiations included the simultaneous study of all aspects of UN Security Council Resolution No 502 of 3 April 1982. My government believes that this new act of British aggression is seriously jeopardizing international peace and security."

The letter submitted by Ambassador Roca requests that this document be distributed to all the representatives who are members of the UN Security Council and be included as a document for the consideration of the conflict between Argentina and Great Britain.

EDITORIAL SEES BRITAIN AS 'AGGRESSOR' IN ATTACK

PY261742 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 26 Apr 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Britain Turns Aggressor"]

[Text] It must now have become apparent to most people who have been following the details of the Malvinas Islands dispute between Argentina and Britain that the Tory government of Margaret Thatcher never had any intention of seeking a peaceful solution, without first spilling a bit of blood. The landing yesterday on the South Georgias at a time when Washington is still labouring feverishly to help London and Buenos Aires come to grips with the situation before it is too late to talk of diplomacy, has made this obvious. Last night at the writing of this editorial it was still impossible to tell what the final outcome of the battle on the deep southern Atlantic islands had been, but final communication radioed by the reduced number of Argentine troops holding their ground at Port Leith indicated that they were taking extremely heavy fire from British ships and helicopters, that their installations had been destroyed and that they were destroying their own codes and radioes in preparation for all-out combat. Some reports earlier indicated that the first British fire was targetted on an Argentine submarine which was standing in port unloading supplies and in no position to attack the oncoming British troops. While British authorities were trying to make it very clear in London that their country had not declared war on Argentina, their actions were speaking very much louder than their words. Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, in Washington for a meeting of the Organization of American States on the Malvinas dispute made clear Argentina's view that this was true when he stated that he had not seen U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who has been acting as mediator, because "we saw that negotiations with Britain had terminated.

It is very difficult not to feel that the headstrong Margaret Thatcher, her government and even her opponents have blundered, goaded, politicked and blasted their way into a situation which is much more dangerous, senseless, violent and irretrievable than the one in which the dispute was before the British attack on the South Georgias. If what Mrs Thatcher and her government wanted to do was destroy hopes for a negotiated settlement without any bloodshed beyond that of the four Argentines who died in the initial occupation of the South Atlantic islands, they have certainly achieved their goal. London has also managed to do away with the considerable flexibility the Argentine Government was willing to show in the negotiations and has probably also given a number of its initial supporters on the issue pause to reflect on whether that support is merited. The British have obviously stuck to the battle plan they set for themselves from the day of the Argentine occupation -- namely, take the South Georgias and use them as a base from which to attack the Malvinas or as means of demoralizing Argentina into giving up the fight.

If Britain believes truly in the latter possibility, it is probably in for a great surprise, since Argentina has shown that its armed forces and, no doubt, the majority of its civilian population, will stand firm on this issue come what may. And strategically it would be a mistake for Britain to believe that even if it takes the Georgias it will be easy to launch an attack on the Malvinas. The fighting in any assault on the Malvinas is bound to be long bloody and demoralizing for the attacker. There are 10,000 Argentines dug in and ready to fight and any realistic attack to take the islands from them would require several times that many men, who could expect to suffer extremely heavy losses. While much of the Western world may not agree with the methods employed by Argentina to back its demands for a settlement of the sovereignty issue in the Malvinas, none with any common sense at all can fail to see that Britain has placed the security of not only Argentina, but the Western world as a whole in a gravely dangerous situation. Britain is no longer a "fictim of aggression", but itself an aggressor. It can only be hoped that other countries will now keep cool enough heads to visualize the possibilities for international expansion of this conflict and take immediate steps to bring an end to violence in the South Atlantic before it escalates further.

RUN ON BANK DEPOSITS, RISING INTEREST NOTED

PY262041 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1704 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr (NA) -- Deposits in the financial system are declining as a result of withdrawal of funds from banks and financial outfits because of fear about possible consequences of the armed conflict.

Despite guarantees given by the economy minister, Roberto Alemann, that there will be no changes in the saving system, depositors massively continue to withdraw their money from the banks. This is driving interest rates upwards.

Banks and financial companies not only adjusted offered interest rates but also paid premiums to attract investors. The inter-bank interest rate climbed 30 percentage points over last Friday, and stands now at 130 percent. Official banks lent funds to some first-line private banks at 115 percent, but this was insufficient to hold down the cost of money. The official dollar market continues to operate as in previous days.

The price of the dollar on external bonds increased by 1,000 pesos, and it now stands at 16,050 for the 1981 series, and at 12,200 for the 1980 series of such bonds. The dollar on the free market was priced at 18,000 pesos, but operations were scanty.

Arrests Made at Merrill Lynch

PY261644 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1323 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Apr (NA) -- Police personnel from the Banks Division have carried out an operation at the Buenos Aires offices of Merrill Lynch, one of the most important enterprises of the forward exchange market in New York.

The police arrested all people who were there at the time and confiscated papers. The operation, which was carried out yesterday and confirmed by Economy Ministry officials, occurred at the Merrill Lynch offices located at 300 San Martin St in Buenos Aires. The police confirmed that the operation had been carried out, but they denied that there were any arrests. Moreover, it was learned that other similar operations had been carried out, one of them in another foreign financial enterprise located at 1000 SAn Martin St.

These police operations concern alleged violations of central bank dispositions regarding collection of funds and resolutions regarding the exchange and financial market. When the events became known, there was annoyance within Economy Ministry circles. Unofficial sources reported that Economy Under Secretary Jorge Bustamante had expressed his annoyance over the police operation.

Alemann Notes Market Normal

PY261420 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (NA) -- Argentine Economy Minister Roberto Alemann said today that the exchange and financial markets "are operating normally and it is believed that no restrictive measures will be necessary" in view of the British attack against South Georgia Island.

During a telephone conversation with NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS Alemann added that "all rumors about an alleged freeze on funds and a suspension of all money exchange operations are baseless." The minister noted that: "However, all Economy Ministry officials and myself have been closely following the latest developments with concern." He added that "if necessary, the proper corrective measures will be put in force."

He noted that "during the first days of this process, people withdrew their money from banks for no apparent logical reason, thus causing an increase in interest rates." He added: "But the measures in force stopped the increase in interest rates and restored the people's confidence. In view of this, people started to deposit their money in banks again." He stated that "all this was done without distorting the basic principles of our government program."

Nevertheless, Alemann did not reject the possibility that in view of the present situation, "today there will be those who, scared by the British attack against the South Georgia Island, will again withdraw their money." But he reasserted that "there is no reason to react in such a manner." Moreover, Alemann said that "therefore, this will again be a temporary situation since people will again deposit their money in banks." Nevertheless, the economy minister said that if the recent measures that have been adopted do not fulfill their objective "the Central Bank and the Economy Ministry will study the possibility of making some other readjustment."

RALLY HELD 26 APR IN SUPPORT OF MALVINAS TAKEOVER

Organized by Labor

PY270233 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2334 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- Thousands of demonstrators gathered tonight in front of Government House to voice support for the Argentine takeover of the Malvinas Islands and to repudiate the attack perpetrated by UK troops against the South Georgia Islands.

The rally was called by the two largest labor unions of the country -- which are currently banned -- after Great Britain yesterday attacked the South Georgia, which was occupied by Argentina on 3 April.

However, youths belonging to the Peronist and communist parties were seen bearing placards with slogans of their parties, among other placards with anti-British slogans.

The police estimated that approximately 4,000 persons gathered at Plaza de Mayo, where Government House is, waving Argentine flags and shouting anti-British slogans and others in support of the Malvinas takeover.

However, some youths shouted slogans against the military government of President Leopoldo Galtieri and the harsh economic policy that is being implemented by Economy Minister Roberto Alemann.

The multitude defiantly shouted "Galtieri, Galtieri, listen carefully, the Malvinas are Argentine but the people belong to Peron" making reference to the late leader Juan Domingo Peron, whose party continued to operate after his death in 1974.

Police Detain U.S. Reporters

PY262103 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2056 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, Apr 26 (NA) -- Three reporters of the U.S. television network ABC were detained this afternoon by the police in Plaza de Mayo after staging an incident with demonstrators of the meeting called by the labor unions.

The U.S. reporters, who were apparently mistaken for British, were taken to police Precinct No 2 in the capital.

British Reporters Harrassed

PY262207 Paris AFP in Spanish 2138 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Apr (AFP) -- A British television reporter and a cameraman had to be protected here today against hotheads who tried to attack them in the Plaza de Mayo.

A police automobile served as shelter for the reporters. The duties of the British special envoys are becoming extremely difficult.

People of every political stripe gathered late this afternoon in the Plaza de Mayo to reiterate their support to the government in the crisis with Great Britain, especially after the British attack on South Georgia Island on Sunday.

In an animated climate, some fights between groups of antagonistic ideas were visible.

For the British press, the problem is becoming increasingly more complicated because the expulsion of Philip Hayton of the BBC is now added to the detention of three London newspaper correspondents 10 days ago, all of them in the southern city of Ushuaia.

Their colleagues William (McLuhirter), of Miami's TIMES magazine, and George (Atkinsons), of South African television, have also been given official warnings to stay in their hotels as much as possible. These instructions are also valid for the other foreign reporters in Ushuaia.

DEFENSE MINISTRY MUST AUTHORIZE CERTAIN EXPORTS

PY261710 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1430 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Apr (TELAM) -- The executive branch has established that the Defense Ministry must authorize specific exports that concern national security and defense.

The measure, which is in force through Decree No 78 and published in today's government bulletin, states that these exports must be authorized by the defense ministry.

These exports include armored cars and tanks, with or without arms; its spare part; military vehicles; and crane pontoon and other tools that are accessory to navigation, aerostat, parachutes, automatic direction finder, radars, binocular and field glasses.

Also includes are land pilot training equipment, radiotelephone and radiotelegraph transmitters and receivers; geodesic equipment; compass, range finders and several other chemical elements.

TORRELIO ANNOUNCES POLITICAL ACTIVITY RESUMPTION

PY260952 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0239 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] La Paz, 24 Apr (TELAM) -- Bolivian President Celso Torrelio Villa has announced that, with the support of the armed forces, the police and the people, the government has ordered the reactivation of political activities with the purpose of electing a constituent assembly in 1983 aimed at approving or adopting a new political basis for democratic coexistence in the country.

During a speech celebrating the 19th anniversary of the Bolivian Navy, Torrelio also said the government has approved a wide opening of dialogue with the largest representative sectors of the nation, aimed at reaching national accord. He said national accord among all Bolivians should search for real and effective solution of the national problems. He explained that by making this announcement, the armed forces are fulfilling their obligation of going along with the Bolivian people.

He emphasized that it is now up to the political parties and all representatives sectors of production, economy and democratic institutions pragmatically to demonstrate their generosity and solidarity with the fatherland. In conclusion, referring to the Bolivian Navy, he said that since its creation the navy has set a permament example of respect for the chain of command and regulations and has shown exemplary unity.

Falange Against Elections

PY261402 La Paz Radio Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] A communique issued by the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] regarding the government's decision to call elections for a constituent assembly states that a constituent assembly or direct elections are not a solution to the socioeconomic and political problems of the country, but will rather worsen them. The official communique of the party was issued recently and is signed by (Antonio Angel Jimenez), (Jorge del Villar) and (Luis Maicera Ruraia).

The first point in the communique states that it is obvious that this is not a serious political act, but rather a hasty measure with which the government hopes to solve its lack of support. It adds that no political path is feasible if the Bolivians do not reach a social consensus beforehand through an accord on political patterns, norms and structures -- in sum, the rules of the game that will allow the establishment of an (?impartial) civilized political course. Dialogue between nationalism and populism is indispensable for this. For the well-being of the Bolivian citizens and to avoid struggle between nationalism and populism they must reach a national accord.

The fourth point in the FSB communique states that the current national political situation is dangerous. There is a vacuum in leadership, there is no government, and in view of that vacuum, populism seems to believe that its time has come. We are facing another attempt similar to that of General Natush Busch. This adventure of a military populist coup would result in a struggle similar to that in El Salvador.

The communique ends by stating that Bolivians desperately need a government capable of guaranteeing each Bolivian social peace and work, and this will only be possible if we are capable of establishing the structure of a state in which all Bolivians feel their rights are respected and that the enforcement of law is a reality.

MNRI Rejects Proposal

PY261830 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1623 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Excerpts] La Paz, 22 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MNRI) today harshly criticized the democratization proposal announced by President Celso Torrelio. The MNRI regards this proposal as a distracting maneuver. The MNRI, which is led by exiled former President Hernan Siles Zuazo, who was the candidate who received the most votes in the aborted elections of 1979 and 1980, virtually rejected the call for political dialogue made by Torrelio.

In a communique released today, the MNRI stated that no dialogue is possible amid guardians and prohibitions, paramilitary forces, drug traffickers and plunderers of the country's natural resources and treasury, who remain unpunished. We do not accept institutional mandates contrary to the constitution and which are designed to concoct a constituent assembly which would coexist with a de facto military government, because this would not be in keeping with a sound, logical, jurdical criterion, the MNRI says.

The MNRI regards as a new trap the announcement that the ban on political parties will be ended without first giving explanations about the return of the exiles. It adds that Siles Zuazo and all other citizens who had been forced into exile should be allowed immediately to return to the country. The MNRI states that the people demand full freedom and general elections for president, vice president, senators and deputies in order to solve the serious national problems.

It states that it is difficult to believe that honorable military officers might be in agreement with these distracting maneuvers, which are only designed to divert the people's attention from their legitimate aspirations and demands. The armed forces had urged the people to promote an atmosphere of social peace and warned that energetic actions would be taken to preserve internal tranquillity.

Yet the stoppage called by bus owners which has kept the country at a virtual standstill for the past 3 days is still in force and 63,000 teachers of urban and rural elementary schools are still on strike. The bus owners, who demand a preferential dollar exchange rate for their imports, will end their stoppage tonight, except in the capital, where the stoppage will continue for an indefinite period. A demonstration staged by teachers to demand wage increases was dispersed violently yesterday in La Paz.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR

PY240758 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Excerpt] The joint Bolivian-Soviet meeting ended yesterday with the signing of an important bilateral agreement of economic cooperation. The meeting was held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra and lasted 3 days.

The following persons attended the meeting, which was held at Los Tajibos Hotel: Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Viktor Ivanovich, and Bolivian Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Eusebio Moreira).

At the end of the meeting both officials signed an agreement, extending the agreement on supply of machinery, agricultural appliances, equipment for metallurgical plants, and other kind of machines from the Soviet Union. A flexible annual interest rate of 4.5 percent for public enterprises, and 5 percent for other sectors was reached.

GOVERNMENT DENOUNCES LEFTIST ACTION ESCALATION

PY261810 Paris AFP in Spanish 1835 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 22 Apr (AFP) -- In referring to several strikes underway and others announced for the coming days, the Peruvian Government denounced a leftist escalation aimed at paralyzing the country. Labor Minister Alfonso Grados stated that the communist leaders are trying to lead the world to believe that Peru desires a regime similar to the one that ruled the country during the first phase of the military government (Gen Juan Velasco).

He lashed out especially against a 48-hour strike recently staged by a sector of the workers who have a share in their enterprises, as well as the strike being for a week now by 4,000 miners in the south and 250,000 civilian construction workes demanding wage increases and social improvements. The miners strike affects the Toquepala and Ilo copper mines, which belong to the Southern Peru Copper Corporation, and the construction workers strike affects mainly government projects, such as the construction of thousands of houses and apartments.

In the meantime the employees of the state-owned Agrarian Bank today started a 48-hour strike, saying the bank executives have increased their salaries exaggeratedly to the detriment of the rest of the employees. The universities for their part, are also announcing strikes of a couple of hours at first, to protest the lack of funds to pay the teachers and other expenses.

The main northern cities -- Tumbes, Piura, Chiclayo, Cajamarca, Trujillo and Chimbote -- at the suggestion of their mayors have decided to strike on 29 and 30 April to demand a change in the government's economic policy. The city of Cusco, the archaeological city in southeastern Peru, has also decided to hold a 24-hour strike on 6 May (?in sympathy with) the strikes in the north.

TERRORISTS TO BE MOVED TO HIGH SECURITY PRISONS

PY232057 Paris AFP in Spanish 1834 GMT 17 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 17 Apr (AFP) -- Persons detained for terrorism will be held in two high security prisons to prevent incidents and escapes, Miguel Gonzalez del Rio, director of prisons, has reported. He said male prisoners will be held in Isla Fronton, near Callao, where there are already 27 prisoners accused of terrorism. This prison was abandoned during the period of military government, but is being repaired. When the necessary work has been done by the end of May, another 79 prisoners will be sent there. These prisoners are now being held in the Lurigancho prison outside Lima, where they were brought from several areas of the country following a mass escape in Ayacucho at the beginning of March. Gonzalez del Rio added that the 22 women accused of terrorism, who were being held in the Chorrillos prison at a seaside resort near Lima, have been transferred to Callao after several incidents occurred in that prison.

Suspect Dies in Prison

PY241933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1815 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Lima, 24 Apr (AFP) -- Peruvian Professor Donato Mendez, who was detained on charges of terrorism, died yesterday in the nearby Port of Callao of wounds inflicted by police in prison, the Lima leftist morning paper EL DIARIO reported today.

EL DIARIO specified that on 10 April Mendez and 28 other guiltless persons were going to be transferred from the Callao jail to one on the Island of Fronton, located off the coast of that port, but that the prisoners forcefully resisted the transfer.

The paper said that then the prisoners were abused by the police guards and that Mendez was shot twice in the abdomen, as a result of which he died yesterday.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON SITUATION AT OAS SESSION

PA262229 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2107 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Statement to newsmen by President Herrera Campins at the Presidential Palace 26 April -- recorded]

[Text] [In progress]...to the situation we are experiencing, which imperils world peace and represents a serious threat to international law and to the collective security of our continent, I wish to convey to all Venezuelans, through you newsmen, an updated account of our foreign minister's activities in the United States in connection with the consultative meeting that was held on implementing the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR.

A dinner was held yesterday at the Argentine Embassy in Washington. It was attended by the foreign ministers of Argentina, Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay and Peru to consider the situation that has resulted from the aggression perpetrated by Great Britain against the fraternal republic to the south.

At that dinner, Venezuela confirmed the clear and definite policy that has been followed by the government that I lead: Solidarity with Argentina in its just position on the Malvinas and rejection of the formula of force on our continent.

At noon today a luncheon was held at which the Venezuelan foreign minister met with the foreign ministers of the Andean countries -- Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia -- because we wanted a direct indication of those governments' definitive position on the Malvinas problem. This morning the consultative meeting was held, chaired by Uruguay, as one of the functions deriving from its present position as president of the Permanent Commission.

Currently the meeting to discuss implementation of the TIAR should be beginning. It has been agreed that the meeting will be opened, logically, by Argentina. Then Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano will speak, to be followed by Panama, U.S. Secretary of State Haig and, probably, the foreign minister of (?Peru). It is believed the sessions will be long enough to accommodate these five addresses.

It would appear that the 21 countries that subscribed to the TIAR feel they should make some kind of presentation before the UN Security Council to explain the position of the countries of the hemisphere. In view of the delicate nature of the situation, it was agreed that a lengthy period would be allowed for presentation of positions, and it was decided therefore that the presentation of proposals for consideration and debate will be permitted until Wednesday.

I wished to tell you all of this because it is known that there have been many reports, some objective and true and others speculative. I believe it is the duty of the national government to keep the entire country, all Venezuelans, informed of what our representatives are doing in the United States, in Washington, at the consultative meeting convened to invoke the TIAR. At this point we still do not know what proposal or proposals will be presented by the Republic of Argentina. The situation is one of great suspense, caused by, among other things, the fact that Great Britain has established a service of information and misinformation, particularly in regard to military topics, wherein military commentators frequently are making statements over U.S. television and in other media about what presumably may or may not be done on the (?battlefield). Among those reports or comments is one to the effect that certain statements have been made in the British Parliament giving the impression that a direct act of violence in the Malvinas is being planned.

Finally, I repeat that we are paying very close attention to all of these events. I am in continuous contact with Foreign Minister Zambrano Velasco, with Hilarion Cardozo, Venezuela's ambassador to the OAS, with Marcial Perez Chiriboga, Venezuelan ambassador to the United States and of course with the Venezuelan ambassador to the Republic of Argentina. I would be grateful to the media if, in presenting news reports amid this profusion of dispatches, they try to be as objective as possible so that the country will receive factual, timely and truly (?objective information).

GOVERNMENT REITERATES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA

PA261624 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1556 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Caracas, 26 Apr (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Luis Herrera Campins reiterated Venezuela's support for Argentina in its conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands. "Venezuela remains firm in its support for Argentina," he told newsmen last night on learning of the first armed clashes in the South Atlantic.

Venezuela was one of the first countries to announce its support for the Argentine claims over the archipelago, and Foreign Minister Alberto Zambrano announced that Argentina could count on Venezuela in case the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, is invoked.

This support was reiterated last night again by Foreign Minister Zambrano hours before leaving for Washington to attend the urgent OAS meeting called to discuss the problem. "We hope to comply with the reciprocal assistance to which we are committed," Zambrano said.

Venezuela has not said, however, what type of support it will give Argentina. Last week President Herrera Campins told newsmen that the TIAR concerns not only military aspects but also economic ones and diplomatic relations.

Diplomatic sources explained that what Venezuela is trying to say is that its support does not necessarily have to be in the military field, but that it could be in the economic or diplomatic field. Last week the same sources said Venezuela was considering implementing economic reprisals against Great Britain if the conflict should become a military confrontation.

The newspaper EL DIARIO DE CARACAS reported that the sanctions could include the canceling of the purchase of 24 Hawk aircraft worth approximately $250 million from British Aerospace. It would also affect the technological contracts by British Petroleum and Royal Dutch Shell with Venezuelan companies. Trade between Great Britain and Venezuela in 1980 was worth over $500 million. Venezuela's exports were $185 million, according to the Foreign Commerce Institute.

LOPEZ PORTILLO DEPLORES UK-ARGENTINA CONFLICT

FL262125 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo said this morning that he deplored the outbreak of war between England and Argentina. He then asserted that Mexico's support would be peaceful and not military. The president reaffirmed our country's traditional stand on the decolonization of the American continent and said that problems should be settled at the forums that man has established for this purpose.

"Violence is not the answer. It complicates matters; this is a fact of life. I am very sorry that the situation has come to this violence, which is going to make a peaceful solution harder. If we felt that our participation would be useful, we would do so in the spirit of Cancun," the president emphasized. President Lopez Portillo was interviewed during the inauguration of a gallery in the plastic arts salon in this city. He answered several questions posed by newsmen during the brief interview. Asked about the possibilities of a third world war, the president replied: "All conflicts of this type in an atmosphere of world instability entail serious risks. I would not like to predict a thing of this scope but there is the danger of a flare-up. I do not see it right away but if this keeps up, no one knows what could happen; and there lies the danger." He then added that he would not want his words to be taken as a prophecy of doom.

Concerning UN intervention in the conflict, he said that the international organizations were all of us. "Everyone in the world should act and not look at the United Nations as an entity apart, that is why we favor stronger international organizations." He also said that at this time many people were becoming directly and authoritatively involved with the two sides and that he believed that this could give better results than the efforts that our country might make. But he acknowledged that if Mexico's effort were useful, "we would make the effort, but I do not see it this way at this time," he said.

On the subject of undocumented Mexican workers in the United States, the president said that the neighboring country to the north is following a policy which is exactly the opposite of the one we will follow to solve our problems. He asserted that the United States is approaching a juncture which, if not a crisis, is serious at the very least. "By resolving our economic strategy and fostering employment, we have arrived at the present juncture, whereas the Americans felt it was better to reduce the economy and employment." Lastly, he said that since our policies have run counter to each other, it was only natural that at a given moment they would meet and that was the moment that we were watching out for.

SOCIALIST CANDIDATE AGAINST USE OF RIO TREATY

FL270028 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2255 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Mexico City, 26 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico must insist that the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) not be applied in the issue of the Malvinas Islands, the presidential candidate of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) has said. Arnoldo Martinez Verdugo said that Mexico has to promote a peaceful solution of the conflict through negotiations. He also said that Mexico should withdraw from the TIAR because it is a tool to place the Latin American peoples under the orders of the United States.

The presidential candidate said that the Malvinas Islands belonged to Argentina and there was nothing for England to do there, but he warned that in addition to not being representative of the people, the Argentine military junta had created this situation to distract them. He said that the United Nations must intervene because the problem is not worth a war or the death of young Latin Americans. On the subject of Mexico's economic situation, Martinez Verdugo said that if the people make their protest felt at the polls on 4 July, the government could adopt new solutions to the country's problems.

PRESIDENT CITES CABINET CHANGES, APPOINTMENTS

PA260157 [Editorial report] Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 26 April carries a live announcement, a "scoop" on the "Domingo al Dia" program, of a list of national cabinet changes. The announcer says that the list was given to the program by Panamanian President Aristides Royo, "in what he called a gift, for this, our first program." The announcer says that the list will be published 27 April.

MINISTRY	MINISTER	DEPUTY MINISTER
Finance and Treasury	Orville Gooding	Abdiel Julio
Agricultural Development	Rene Gonzalez	Jerry Wilson
Commerce and Industry	Raul Brostella	Mario Rognoni
Labor and Social Welfare	Jose Montenegro	Carlos Vasquez
Health	Edith Jimenez de Bethancourt	Jose M Dutari
Planning and Economic Policy	Luis Alberto Arias	Hector Alexander

The other changes that are announced are:

INSTITUTION	POSITION	DEPUTY
	Director	Deputy Director
National Lottery	Gustavo Garcia de Paredes	Aristides Martinez Ortega
Civil Aeronautics	Cesar Rodriguez Maylin	Roberto Levy
Social Security Fund	Jose Renan Esquivel	Juana Abood
	General Manager	Deputy General Manager
Colon Free Zone	Roberto Velasquez	Berta Chen
Panama National Bank	Rafael Arosemena	
	General Director	Deputy General Director
Hydraulic Resources and Electric Power	Edwin Fabrega	Victor Carlos Urrutia
	Provisional Director	
Cerro Colorado Mining Corporation	Jaime Roquebert	
	Director	Deputy Director
National Culture Institute	Diogenes Cedeno Cenci	Manuel Zarate
	General Manager	Deputy General Manager
Remon Racetrack	Alberto Echevers	
Institution for the Formation and Use of Human Resources	Elvia de Sandoval	Marcela de Rodriguez
Panama Tourist Institute	Felix Estripeaut	Narciso Garay Navarro
Agricultural Development Bank	Abelardo Carles	Alberto Magno Castillero
National Finance Corporation	Leovigildo Gutierrez	
	General Director	
Agricultural Marketing Institute	Denis Arce	
	Plant Director	Plant Deputy Director
Bayano Cement Plant	Santiago Torrijos	Aurelio Chu Yi

The other appointments that are announced are:

Governor of Panama Province: Secundino Torres Gudino
Postal and Telecommunications Director: Roger Decerega
According to the announcer, no changes were made in the Ministries of Public Works, Foreign Relations, Education, Presidency and Government and Justice.

COLUMNIST SEES PASTORA AS POSITIVE FOR NICARAGUA

PA262203 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Apr 82 p 4

[Joaquin Beleno column: "Cero's Voice"]

[Excerpt] When I heard Commander Cero [Eden Pastora] speak, I had the impression that he had just returned from Managua and was describing what he has seen. In other words, it seems that commander Cero is preparing an imminent Somozist [as published] invasion, supported by the United States, to evict the revolutionaries who have taken over Nicaragua, and is moving ahead to save face for the Sandinist revolution, which has taken on a Cuban aspect. I believe that Reagan himself must be raising toasts to Cero's success.

I have become convinced that Commander Cero is the only dissident in the Sandinist revolution who can prevent the return of "Somozism without Somaza" to Nicaragua, not that he has complete U.S. support. If Reagan is an intelligent man, there is no doubt that he would prefer to play Commander Cero's card in provoking a democratic revolution in Nicaragua, rather than inciting a return to the oligarchic Somozism, to replace the communist revolution.

All Panamanians should know that until the very last minute, Gen Omar Torrijos declined to go to Nicaragua on the Nicaraguan revolution's first anniversary. And he in fact did not go. The 2d year, he definitely refrained from participating in such an event in a country where an altar had already been erected to Fidel Castro.

Nicaragua's Government junta is exerting pressure on the United States in an attempt to force it to define its position and to begin dialogue with them. Reagan's evasive attitude proves something more than do the events that we have been hearing about: the choice is either Fidel Castro or Reagan.

The truth is that those of us who believe that a revolution is intended to liberate people, support neither of the two. We don't agree with the tactic of imposing oligarchy in the name of freedom, nor with snatching away the peoples' liberty under the same pretext. It seems to me that Commander Cero comes closer to an authentic American revolution, which would benefit his people without the humiliating aftermaths of either communism or capitalism.

PERONIST LEADER RALLIES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA

PA241453 Paris AFP in Spanish 2226 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] Panama City, 23 Apr (AFP) -- Former deputy and governor of the Province of Cordoba, Argentina, Ricardo Obregon Cano, declared here that in view of his country's conflict with England over the Malvinas islands, "the Argentine people recommend a government of national emergency in order to better carry out this struggle." Obregon Cano arrived in this capital, where he met with President Aristides Royo and leaders of the Panamanian official party, as part of a diplomatic offensive in search of solidarity and support from the Latin American and European peoples and governments.

"This struggle must be carried out through a great national popular front, in view of the deterioration suffered by the country from long years of military regimes," the Peronist leader explained; after pointing to the problem the creation of such a front is facing from "the absence of all democratic sectors inside Argentina."

The former Peronist legislator reiterated that his group offers total, unreserved support to the rally for the recovery of the Malvinas being conducted by the Argentine Armed Forces.

He stressed, however, that "it in no way means the end of demands and struggles being waged against the military dictatorship to achieve the democratization of Argentina." Obregon said that, under the present situation, all political prisoners should be released and all exiles allowed to return to the country.

"The Argentine people demand that under no circumstances should the sovereignty over the Malvinas be negotiated," Obregon added, asserting that such a position was broadly supported at the Plaza de Mayo rally 3 weeks ago, when the military junta was told that once the Malvinas Islands were recovered, their sovereignty could not be negotiated.

Obregon said the Argentines hope that when the time comes to analyze the Anglo-Argentine conflict, the OAS will prove that "its procedures and commitments conform to the clear objectives for which it was created." Likewise, he said the Argentines do not trust the mediation of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, as he is considered an ally of Great Britain. In his opinion, the next thing to be settled in Argentina is the nation's democratization, so the popular forces may publicly express their views, through a government legitimately elected by the majority of the people.

PAPER SAYS PAREDES USURPS PRESIDENTIAL DUTIES

PA260043 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Apr 82 p 1-A

["As of Today" column]

[Text] Only a few days after the military coup staged in March [as published], Colonel Paredes, with greater ambition but without either additional or better qualifications than his predecessor, has become a general. The suddenness of the self-conferred promotion -- this time the colonel did not decline because he was not consulted -- along with the commander's constant and public intervention in government matters make the hope of achieving the restoration of democracy more illusory than ever. In the course of a few weeks, the now-General Paredes has expressed his views on the most varied foreign policy topics; has usurped functions that are normally handled by the Agrarian Reform Office and the Housing Ministry; has indicated with unequivocal clarity what the Supreme Court's decision must be in the case of the Panamenist Party; has almost held a concordat with the church hierarchy; and is now ordering President Royo to make changes in his cabinet. Everything indicates that the National Guard commander has become a de facto chief of state, with more and even greater powers than Article 277 of the 1972 constitution conferred on General Torrijos in his day. The withdrawal has definitely ended and the National Guard, or at least its commander, has shown that it is willing to publicly usurp the powers that would normally belong to other officials and entities. The brand new general's ambition has prevented him from waiting until 1984, and he has already become president.

FOUR NATIONAL GUARDSMEN DIE IN MORTAR ACCIDENT

PA242226 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1940 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] National Guard Sargeant (Desiderio Rodriguez) and guardsmen (Maximiliano Barrios), (Julio Morenos) and (Jose Atencio) died when a mortar round exploded this morning while they were engaged in military exercises at the Fort Cimarron mortar practice range.

The accident occurred when the round missed the target. Other National Guard members were wounded in the same accident. They are: Sgt (C.J. Ruiz), Cpl (Rafael Gaitan); and Guardsmen (Gustavo Zamudio) and (Marcel Gomez).

BELIZE

PRICE CABLES CASTRO, OTHERS ON FALKLANDS ISSUE

FL262307 Bridgetown CANA in English 2240 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Belmopan, Belize, 26 April (CANA) -- Belize today dispatched cables to Caribbean Community (CARICOM) members of the Organisation of American States (OAS), Mexico and Nonaligned Movement President Fidel Castro, expressing its concern over the principles at stake in the Falkland Islands dispute between Britain and Argentina. Prime Minister George Price, in the cable to CARICOM OAS members, said his government was confident they would continue to stand firmly behind a United Nations Resolution demanding the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the South Atlantic group of islands. This, the cable said, would open the way for a negotiated settlement between the countries on the question of sovereignty over the Falklands, also known as the Malvinas Islands.

Mr Price's cable was dispatched as the OAS was meeting in a special session requested by Argentina to invoke a 1947 treaty which commits OAS members that signed the pact to aiding another member state in the face of external attack.

Belize, because of a longstanding border dispute with neighbouring Guatemala, is barred from membership of the hemispheric organisation. Argentina seized the Falklands from Britain three weeks ago and a British naval task force sent to smash the invasion, reported its first success yesterday recapturing the island of South Georgia.

Mr Price expressed similar sentiments in his cable to Mexican president, Jose Lopez Portillo. But the cable to nonaligned president, Cuban leader Fidel Castro, read: "As a member of the Nonaligned Movement, Belize appeals that you endevaour to persuade the government of Argentina to respect United Nations resolutions calling for the withdrawal from the Falkland Islands and to permit negotiations to continue, so that a peaceful solution to its dispute with the United Nations [as received] can be found."

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT CARAZO COMMENTS ON FALKLANDS ISSUE

PA261945 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] President Rodrigo Carazo made the following statement regarding the latest developments in the South Atlantic, as a result of the Malvinas conflict:

[Begin recording] [Question] The situation created by the Malvinas conflict has become more serious; yesterday there were armed clashes between Argentina and the United Kingdom. What is the Costa Rican point of view at this time while the OAS is trying to find a peaceful solution?

[Answer] I think that is the answer: To try to find a peaceful solution, a ceasefire, that is the most important thing. From this point of view, countries must responsibly understand the scope of this serious problem that could develop into a more serious confrontation, even between continents.

[Question] Do you think it could get even worse after yesterday's armed clashes?

[Answer] Well, at this time I think the situation is very serious, and from the political point of view, moderation should be exercised by the OAS, the Security Council, and everyone should be trying to find ways of obtaining a cease-fire and a peace solution to this dispute or conflict, since the contrary could have unpredictable effects.

[Question] Within the Latin American sphere, what else could be done in addition to a resolution such as the one that is likely to be issued by the OAS today?

[Answer] Well, in my opinion, no steps should be taken outside established procedures. The established procedure now should be for the country representatives to meet and search for an intelligent solution to the problem. In this respect, in a few minutes I will be talking over the telephone with our foreign minister, who is representing us at the OAS. [end recording]

AUTHORITIES REINFORCE VIGILANCE ALONG BORDER

PA240451 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2148 GMT 23 Apr 82

[Text] San Jose, 23 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican police guard posts along the border with Nicaragua have been reinforced to prevent armed clashes that could compromise the country. On 7 and 20 April shots were exchanged between anti-Sandinist commandos and Nicaraguan soldiers in two border towns.

As a result of these incidents, Harry Wohlstein, public security minister of Costa Rica, ordered more civil guards transferred to the zone, to guarantee supervision over and patrolling of the border.

EL SALVADOR

PDC BOYCOTTS OPENING CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY SESSION

PA261903 Paris AFP in Spanish 1713 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (AFP) -- The 24 Christian Democratic deputies abstained from attending the solemn opening session of the Constituent Assembly, which was officially declared opened today. The government junta also stayed away. At the plenary session, at which the 36 rightist deputies who control the assembly's leadership participated, and delegations from the Supreme Court and representatives of the diplomatic corps were present, Roberto d'Aubuisson reaffirmed his decision to "work for the benefit of the people who decided their destiny" on 28 March.

MAGANA CANDIDACY AS PRESIDENT WIDELY SUPPORTED

PA261941 Paris AFP in Spanish 1846 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (AFP) -- The candidacy of Alvaro Magana, economist and banker, as provisional president of El Salvador, will be supported by the Christian Democratic Party, the National Conciliation Party, Democratic Action and the Salvadoran Popular Party, it was announced officially. Therefore, Magana has the support of 41 of the 60 votes of the Constituent Assembly deputies and his selection could be confirmed this very afternoon.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS GUATEMALA WILL JOIN CADC

PA241713 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 24 Apr 82

[Text] Guatemala will join the Central American Democratic Community, CADC, which was formed a few months ago by Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador, in San Jose, Costa Rica, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonso Lima told newsmen during an interview. When this occurs, Guatemala will be the CADC's fourth member. When the CADC was founded, neither Guatemala nor Nicaragua were invited and Panama was expressly excluded.

Foreign Minister Alonso Lima also told newsmen he did not know why Guatemala was not invited to become a founding member. The founding of the CADC was encouraged by Venezuela, Colombia and the United States.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES HIGH-LEVEL MILITARY CHANGES

PA262332 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 2150 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Communique issued 26 April by the Public Relations Directorate of the Honduran Armed Forces -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Armed Forces Command wishes to inform the general public that:

1. For reasons of organizational and service requirements, some internal changes have been made in the cadres of the armed institution, resulting in the following appointments:

1. Commanding general of the Public Security Forces: Infantry Col DEM [member of the General Staff] Daniel Bali Castillo, replacing Infantry Col DEM Leonidas Torres Arias, who will occupy another position.

2. Commander of the 1st Infantry Battalion: Infantry Col DEM Oscar Armando Mejia Peralta, replacing Infantry Col DEM Hubert Boden Caceres, who will occupy another position.

3. Commander of the 3d Infantry Battalion: Infantry Col DEM Roberto Martinez Avila, replacing Infantry Col DEM Daniel Bali Castillo.

4. Commander of the 4th Infantry Battalion: Infantry Col DEM Amilcar Castillo Suazo, replacing Infantry Col DEM Roberto Martinez Avila.

5. Commander of the 1st Engineer Battalion: Infantry Col DEM Alberto Montoya Rodriguez, replacing Infantry Col DEM Amilcar Castillo Suazo.

The above assignments will be effective as of this date.

2. This command trusts in the ability and loyalty of the recently-appointed officers, whose professionalism, honor and sacrifice will enhance the good name and prestige of our armed forces and the dignity of the fatherland, while contributing to the maintenance of constitutional order and to true compliance with our oath, which is to firmly preserve the nation's sovereignty.

[Dated] Comayaguela, Capital District, 26 April 1982. [Signed] Public Relations Directorate, Honduran Armed Forces

NONAGGRESSION PACT WITH NICARAGUA REJECTED

PA270320 Paris AFP in Spanish 0240 GMT 27 Apr 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 26 Apr (AFP) -- Today Honduras rejected the concept of a bilateral nonaggression treaty with Nicaragua, while reiterating that its territory is not lent, nor will it be, to actions intended to attack or destabilize neighboring territories." This came in response to statements made here on 21 April by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto. The Honduran foreign secretary also proposed to Nicaragua that absolute respect for the common borders of the countries of the isthmus be enforced immediately, in response to the proposed bilateral pacification plan presented here by d'Escoto. Paz noted that President Roberto Suazo analyzed the proposal for a meeting of the two countries' army leaders, a meeting agreed upon by the two countries' heads of state in 1980 and on which Nicaragua has often insisted as a basis for ending the two countries' border tensions.

The foreign secretary insisted that it is urgent "to put an end to the actions that, though not reaching a warlike confrontation, are covertly introduced in the area by subversives and are undermining the structure of another state" and urged that "the foundations upon which to reach a general disarmament by which to halt the arms race, which has brought so much imbalance and tension to the region" be laid.

Neither did Honduras accept the establishment of a joint military patrol on the border, as proposed by Nicaragua, saying in this regard that "we are perfectly willing, without reservation, to open our territory to any international surveillance whose primary purpose is to strengthen peace," while rejecting Nicaragua's charges about the presence of bands of former Somozist guards in Honduran territory.

Regarding the Nicaraguan request that a naval base not be installed in the Fonseca Gulf, the Honduran Government said that there is no plan to do so, "for it wound be contrary to the proposal to dismantle foreign military bases and guerrilla training camps and schools, which do not exist in some countries of the area."

NICARAGUA

NEWSPAPER QUESTIONS PASTORA 'TURNAROUND'

PA260320 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 16 Apr 82 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "A Clear Context To Explain Pastora's Turnaround"]

[Text] First there was the Che Guevara style farewell with a letter and everything, and then the "I'll see you, commander." Then there were the repudiations from abroad against those who used his name "to discredit him." But in his news conference yesterday, Eden Pastora reneged on everything except the letter that he left and his videotape on the posters conspiracy.

His call to EL NUEVO DIARIO some weeks ago was to reaffirm his Sandinism and his love for the revolution, and to strongly protest against those who wanted to make him appear as a counterrevolutionary. In addition to this, he reiterated his promise, no longer very convincing, that he would fight as an internationalist in favor of "others who suffer."

Why the change? Why his attitude and his statements of yesterday? Based on Pastora's temperament, on his ideological inconsistency of praising the Cuban revolution while labeling as enemies the Cubans who are helping us; on his original interpretation of fascism, communism, internationalism, classism and the productive "climate," we cannot forget that his news conference has taken place at a moment when imperialism has been forced to say that it intends to negotiate for peace with Nicaragua.

The United States has been forced to negotiate with Nicaragua by the failure of bitter U.S. campaigns to discredit Nicaragua and by U.S. financing of and preparations for aggression against Nicaragua. Only when we consider these "coincidences" is there an explanation for the fact that now Pastora is being accompanied by those whom he had once denounced for using his name, those Cuban worms -- who attended his news conference by invitation -- and that he is able to declare war on Nicaragua from a country with which we have diplomatic relations.

ORTEGA CALLS FOR UNITY AT GEPLACEA MEETING

PA262026 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said today that the attitude taken by the United Kingdom in view of the Argentine claim for sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands was arrogant and antihistoric.

On inaugurating the 16th meeting of the group of Latin American and Caribbean sugar exporting countries (GEPLACEA), Commander Ortega said that the historic and united spirit of the peoples of Latin America is above such attitudes and above the economic discrimination to which our peoples are subjected. This historic spirit of unity explains how, going beyond their differences, the governments of Latin America have risen against the colonialist pretensions of the United Kingdom. Latin Americans should follow this example for a common policy in all respects, above all in the political area where our people have been dominated and enslaved.

[Begin recording] The Latin American and Caribbean peoples have been constant victims of domination, aggression and divisive policies. But deep down the spirit of our peoples' historic unity is still alive. Deep down you cannot deny, nor can they deny, the common interests that our peoples have: The common difficulties they face, the common history they share and the common future they have. This explains why at this moment, when there is a struggle against colonialism in Latin America; when the Argentine people claim a historic and just demand; when there is an unjust, antihistoric and above all arrogant reaction from those who in a selfish manner are trying to annul them as a people, the unity of our peoples is seen.

Even with the political and ideological differences, the unity of a great majority of the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean has been seen. This is a clear example of the need that we the Latin Americans have -- all the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean -- to promote a common policy in all respects. [end recording]

ORTEGA LAMBASTS REAGAN'S CARIBBEAN AID PLAN

PA270348 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2224 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Managua, 26 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, critized Reagan's plan for the Caribbean Basin today, terming it an "attack against the economies of our peoples."

Commander Ortega referred to the so-called "mini-Marshal" plan" while opening the 16th meeting of the group of Latin American and Caribbean Sugar-Exporting Countries (GEPLACEA) in Managua. The Nicaraguan Government leader said that the Latin Americans "should not let themselves be seduced" by any proposals that sound "very favorable," because "they are partial" in any event.

He underlined that "the proposals in the Reagan plan -- although he did not call it by that name -- "are intended to weaken or destroy organizations such as GEPLACEA. When efforts are made, as in the case of sugar, to enable the industry to achieve a stable market, the response given to us denies this possibility and instead disregards our tremendous difficulties and needs," he added.

"How can we perceive this as a policy of peace and justice, intended to benefit humanity, if the problem is extended to other products that these countries export," Ortega asked.

The GEPLACEA meeting, which will last until Thursday, is being attended by delegates from 19 member-countries of the organization, whose permanent headquarters is in Mexico.

U.S. NAVY VIOLATIONS OF NATIONAL WATERS DECRIED

PA231345 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 21 Apr 82

[Our American commentary]

[Text] Nicaragua has protested to the U.S. Government about the repeated presence of U.S. warships in Nicaraguan jurisdictional waters.

In the message sent to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Nicaragua's acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco says that these violations of Nicaraguan jurisdictional waters by the destroyer "Coontz" and other U.S. warships are a new provocation.

The Nicaraguan Government believes that these provocations are the advance step of the interventionist military preparations planned by the Washington government against Nicaragua. These actions of force, the message adds, are a clear denial of the alleged wishes of the U.S. Government to help to decrease tensions in the region

Finally in the note to the Department of State, the Nicaraguan Government demanded the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. warships violating Nicaraguan jurisdictional waters.

In its provocations and agression against Nicaragua the United States frequently uses maritime means. Recently the Central American and Caribbean Anti-Imperialist Tribunal Investigation and Documentation Center revealed that a U.S. vessel has been anchored since the beginning of this month at Lempira Port, near Nicaraguan territory and is carrying out espionage activities against this country.

It is a vessel which, according to the OAS Information Department, was taken there by a corporation to render medical assistance to the Bahia Honduras Islands. It is known, however, that the vessel was in fact donated by the U.S. multinational International Telephone and Telegraph and that its true mission is carrying out espionage activites against Nicaragua and supplying weapons to the counterrevolutionary group, headed by Steadman Fagoth, which is operating from the Honduras border.

The Central American and Caribbean Anti-Imperialist Tribunal charged that this same vessel was used in 1954 by the CIA to give logistical support to the mercenaries who invaded Guatemala to overthrow the popular Jacobo Arbenz regime.

The tribunal adds that the use of this vessel is part of the criminal tactics waged by the United States to create in the Nicaraguan Zelaya Department, on the Atlantic coast, a beachhead where a puppet government would be installed, independence would be proclaimed and military aid would be requested from the OAS countries.

In this aggressive imperialist maneuver the United States is using counterrevolutionaries who are trying to deceive the native residents of Zelaya Department in order to promote separatist feelings with the sole purpose of creating problems for the Sandinist government, weakening the Nicaraguan revolution and facilitating aggressive U.S. plans.

These criminal U.S. plans are not new. Similar maneuvers have been used in other countries where revolutions have triumphed. The imperialists close their eyes to history and cannot understand that revolutions are irreversible. Regardless of all their attacks, they will be defeated by the heroic people of Augusto Cesar Sandino and Carlos Fonseca Amador.

DEBRAY LEAVES FOR MEXICO AFTER 3-DAY VISIT

PA231953 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Apr 82

[Text] Regis Debray, French Government adviser for Latin American affairs, left yesterday for Mexico after a 3-day stay in our country. The visit to Mexico is the last leg of his trip through Central America to analyze the area's problems. Debray will return to Paris today, after meeting with a number of Mexican authorities.

Debray arrived Sunday in Managua and met with several revolutionary leaders. Most important among these were his meetings with Commanders of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the National Directorate's Political Commission, and Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction.

FRENCH WEAPONS SALES ARRANGEMENTS ON SCHEDULE

PA251905 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Paris -- Nicaraguan Ambassador to France Alejandro Serrano Caldera has confirmed that the agreement for the sale of French weapons to Nicaragua has not been delayed. The diplomat held a news conference in Paris on 23 April. The news conference was attended by Father Ernesto Cardenal, Nicaragua's culture minister, who today left the capital feeling very satisfied with the results of his visit to Paris at UNESCO's invitation.

According to Ambassador Serrano Caldera, the various documents related to the sale of French weapons to Nicaragua, the opening of credits and the contracts with the manufacturers, were approved in Managua and returend to Paris last week. The diplomat stressed that all commitments will be honored on schedule.

WHEELOCK OFFICIATES AT LAND TITLE CEREMONY

PA252009 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Excerpt] We shall continue expropriating large unused land holdings, whether they belong to Somozists or Robelists, Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock has announced.

Agrarian reform titles were distributed for the first time to peasants in Managua Department at a ceremony held this morning at the Santa Cecilia Ranch. The ranch, which is now known as the (Marta Julia Lopez) Cooperative, is located in San Isidro, La Cruz Verde. Hundreds of peasants from the department's various municipalities attended the event to participate in the happiness of those benefitted by the revolution. A total of 7,000 manzanas were distributed among the department's 19 most outstanding cooperatives.

Present on behalf of the National Directorate were Jaime Wheelock, commander of the revolution and minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform; Guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez; Guerrilla Commander Richard Lugo; (Antenor Ferrei), who is in charge of the regional office of the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute; Salvador Mayorga, deputy minister of agricultural devemopment and agrarian reform; and Narciso Gonzalez, president of the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, UNAG. Even if Robelo and Pastora don't like it, we will continue expropriating the large unused landholdings, whether they belong to Somozists or Robelists, because we have a commitment to our workers and peasants, Commander of the Revolution Maime Wheelock told the crowd.

Our people's needs are great; they have been the victims of exploitation and extortion for centuries. This is why we must distribute our only wealth justly. He added: We don't want to harm anybody, but to distribute wealth in a more just manner. In other words, the revolutionary process must expand. It expanded with the creation of the Farm Workers Association and of UNAG because those two organizations are demanding better living standards and land for those who have none.

We have finished expropriating the Somozists' land and we will continue expropriating large unused land holdings, the commander added. He also commented on the distribution of land in our country. In the days of the Somozas, 96 percent of the best land was in the hands of the big producers, who constituted a minority. Meanwhile, 150,000 peasants held only 4 percent of the total arable land.

COMMENTARY VIEWS MAJOR D'AUBUISSON ELECTION

FL231906 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1244 GMT 23 Apr 82

[International commentary by (Fernandez Vilela) of the Revista de la Manana staff, and Miguel Roa of PRENSA LATINA]

[Excerpts] [(Vilela)] Good morning dear viewers. The election of the ultrarightist and terrorist Maj Roberto D'Aubuisson as president of the misnamed Constituent Assembly, as well as an upsurge of guerrilla actions, has put the Salvadoran conflict in the headlines of the world press once again. The conflict had been somewhat overshadowed in recent days by the one over Las Malvinas. [passage omitted] There's no doubt that the hand of the United States is behind all this.

[Roa] I feel, (Vilela), that basically, two things stand out in relation with D'Aubuisson's election. There's first the shame brought upon a body that calls itself the Constituent Assembly of El Salvador by choosing as its president none other than Maj D'Aubuisson, who has been recognized, not only in El Salvador, but internationally, as one of the most sinister figures in that Central American country.

Secondly, his designation shows the evident failure of U.S. efforts to try to give a democratic image to the future Salvadoran government. I say this because it is no secret that U.S. intentions were to legitimize the military-Christian Democratic junta headed by Jose Napoleon Duarte.

In view of these setbacks, the United States was forced to send Gen Vernon Walters over on Wednesday. Walters is a sort of special envoy of the U.S. President and of Alexander Haig, whose job is to solve difficult situations. Walters met in El Salvador with all the rightist political parties, first singly and then as a group, to try to find a solution, but he failed.

The outcome was that yesterday, at the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly, the Christian Democrats were excluded and the rightist parties elected d'Aubuisson. In addition, the other eight positions in the Executive Board of the Constituent Assembly were also filled by ultrarightist parties. This means that the assembly is in their hands and that they are going to do whatever they want to with the assembly. In other words, they are going to legally create a situation akin to the one that existed before the 15 October 1979 coup d'etat which took Duarte to power after the ultrareactionary government of General Romero was ousted.

[(Vilela)] Banker (Alvaro Magana), a member of the oligarchy and of one of the 17 families represented by the ultraright, is being mentioned as one of the candidates to become president of El Salvador on Monday. Other candidates are (Reinaldo Galindo) a former ambassador to the United States, and (Rene Fortuno), president of the Democratic Action Party. Indications are that the likeliest one is (Magana). It seems he is the U.S. candidate. He is acceptable both to the ultraright and the Christian Democrats, although Major d'Aubuisson apparently does not like him. Major d'Aubuisson prefers former Foreign Minister Antonio Rodriguez. However, all indications are that (Magana) is so far the likeliest one to be named president of El Salvador.

This has direct bearing on the U.S. Government's requirement that there be a "new and independent face," allowing the Reagan administration to maneuver with some margin of success in the U.S. Congress and increase aid to El Salvador.

[Roa] Yes, (Vilela). It is noted that one of Walters' missions was precisely that. Should the U.S. candidate -- hopefully a Christian Democrat -- not win, Walters was to try and name a new face, a different face, in President Reagan's own words. Now, this face might be new but it would represent the same oligarchy that has been ruling El Salvador for nearly a century.

What I would like to point out is that in addition to his meetings with the leaders of the rightwing political parties, Walters met with the military and stressed with them the need to create the new government with a new image to make it possible for the United States to get congressional approval for the loans that are needed to keep that kind of government in power.

[Words indistinct] in that talk with the military, a list of three candidates proposed by the military to try to create a government with a civilian facade but, in the end, subordinate to the criteria, the decisions of the military.

We should note that in Walters' meetings with the country's political leaders, there was a kind of mutual blackmail because they know they need each other. In other words, the oligarchy, the rightwing sectors of El Salvador, need the credits of around $180 million the United States has to provide for the purchase of arms and other military aid, without which the rightists would not be able to rule.

Moreover, the United States needs a strong government able to control the situation there and prevent at all costs what the United States is trying to avoid; a revolutionary triumph, the triumph of the Salvadoran people. That is why I was telling you that in this mutual blackmail, the United States apparently has not had its own way yet because D'Aubuisson's election and the prospect of a president who is also an ultrarightist next week is going to upset those plans to put a democratic facade to the situation in El Salvador.

[(Vilela)] As you yourself said, Roa, the Salvadoran people will provide the answer, and they are already replying. Last night, half of the Salvadoran capital was without lights, three soldiers were killed in Chalatenango, there was fighting on Babilonia hill, segments of the Pan-American Highway were occupied, etc. In other words, they have provided and continue to provide the answer.

FOREIGN MINISTRY VOICES SUPPORT FOR ARGENTINA

FL261434 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1215 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Declaration by Cuban Foreign Ministry on the Falkland Islands issue -- read by announcer]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the Government of Argentina announced that one of its submarines had been attacked by British aircraft at the South Georgia Island. Later on, the Ministry of Defense of Great Britain announced that British forces had conducted a landing at the island, which was confirmed by a communique issued by the military junta of the Government of Argentina.

This aggressive action shows an arrogant contempt for the call of world public opinion for a peaceful, negotiated solution of the conflict, which has worsened in recent days, between Great Britain and Argentina regarding 'Argentina's sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands. Such action represents a flagrant violation of the most essential principles of international right, of the UN Charter and of the terms of resolution No 502 of the UN Security Council, which was sponsored by Great Britain itself. In addition, this implies an attempt to return to the past era of gunboat policy and colonial methods, which are unacceptable today.

The Cuban Government, together with the countries of the Nonaligned Movement and in accordance with the resolutions of the UN General Assembly, has always recognized and proclaimed the sovereign rights of Argentina over the territories of the Malvinas Islands. For this reason, Cuba condemns the aggression and declares the solidarity of the Cuban people and Government with Argentina; and at the same time demands an immediate halt to all acts of military and economic hostility and all other types against that fraternal Latin American and nonaligned country.

At the same time that it calls for a political and peaceful solution of the conflict, Cuba warns about its consequences for peace and security in the region.

RAUL CASTRO NOTES ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EJT TROOPS

FL261253 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] The regular units of our Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] share the same political, moral and combative principles with the Youth Labor Army [EJT], the armed productive arm of the FAR, Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of Cuba's Communist Party, has stated in his closing remarks at the ceremony of presentation of awards to outstanding EJT groups in the current sugar harvest in Camaguey.

After noting the merits of the Camaguey forces in the harvest and the continued growth of productivity, Raul hailed their accomplishments, some 57 millions of arrobas of cane cut by the units to date which is well above the plan. This represents a 22 percent overfulfillment, with 81.4 percent of attendance at work and more than 300 millions of arrobas cut up to the last workday.

Raul stated that the residents of Camaguey in the 17 battalions existing in the province have 13 members who are millionaires and one who is two times millionaire, while five of them have cut more than 20 million delivered arrobas and two are close to 30 million. Comparing the results of the previous harvest with the current one, he announced that there are 33 more two-time millionaire platoons, 8 more 10-time millionaire canecutters, and a number of brigades with 1 million or more.

The first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers stressed the accomplishments of the F battalion, one of whose camps served as the site for the presentation of awards and whose chief, Maj Miguel Ara Napoles, was the overall winner. Referring to the statistics, Raul said that they are more eloquent than anything which could be said for those who held a mocha [short Cuban machete] in their hands and who know well enough how much sweat has to be spilled, how much effort and political awareness is needed to attain such successes. That victory, he stated, is the fruit derived from the good work of chiefs, officers, warrant officers and sergeants, the quality of the combatants and the political work.

Expanding on that point, he noted that during the first 3 months of the year, 113 EJT members joined the union of young communists in Camaguey while 2,114 others are included in the preparatory phase to join the political organization. He said that the resulting material conditions demonstrate a great increase in general, even though it cannot be said that everything has been resolved until the scheduled plan is fulfilled. He noted the progress made in the ideological formation of the soldiers and praised the operation of 31 Lenin-Marti halls, 51 recreation centers, 44 halls for television watching and conferences, 24 amphitheaters, 10 open-air recreational areas and 2,000 combatants who have joined the movement of culture amateurs.

Raul stressed that the most important thing observed in the EJT troops is the combative spirit, the high morale and high productivity. He also noted the work of the party and local offices of the people's government in solving many problems which have already been overcome.

The Cuban leader conveyed congratulations via Manuel Vazquez, first party secretary in the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes municipality, to area sugar industry workers for having overfulfilled the production of crude without burning fuel. The second secretary of the party decorated Col Antonio Enrique Lusson Batlle, chief of the EJT troops, with the combatant of the clandestine struggle and national liberation war medals. As he presented the medals, Raul referred to the merits of combatant Lusson Batlle.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INTERIM CONSTITUTION

FL261559 Bridgetown CANA in English 1750 GMT 25 Apr 82

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, 25 Apr (CANA) -- Suriname has a new interim constitution to replace the one suspended after the February 1980 military coup here. It guarantees several of the traditional rights and freedoms and was announced by the Suriname military authority, the country's most senior policy makers.

The interim document will remain in force pending the holding of elections under a constitution to be decided by the people, the military authority said. No time frame was given for either the elections or the promulgation of the final version of the constitution. The interim document says:

(1) -- The people of Suriname will decide their own political status and their economic, social and cultural development.
(2) -- To accomplish this, all its natural resources will be used. If international cooperation is necessary mutual benefit is expected.
(A) All Surinamese are equal.
(B) No one must be discriminated against because of race, religion, language, level of education, social status and so forth.
(C) The government must create the circumstances so that everybody should be equal.
(3) -- (A) The physical, psychological and moral integrity of each person will be respected.
(B) No one should be tortured or humiliated.
(C) No one should be forced to do penal servitude.
(4) -- Forced labour in this article is not
(A) Military service
(B) Forced as in detention.
(C) Civil duties.
(5) -- (A) Personal liberty is guaranteed.
(B) Personal liberty can only be taken away by a court of law.
(C) Every one should be treated according to human dignity.
(6) -- (A) Private life will be protected.
(B) Private property can only be entered with a court order.
(C) Secrecy of letters, telephone and telegraphs guaranteed.
(7) -- Freedom of religion is guaranteed.
(8) -- Freedom of the press is guaranteed.
(9) -- Freedom to hold peaceful meetings and assemblies is guaranteed.
(10) -- Everybody has the right of petition, economic rights and duties.
(11) -- Every citizen is morally obliged to work. The government must stimulate and create the conditions for each and every citizen to work.
(12) -- Minimum working conditions for every worker.
(A) Equal pay with regard of sex.
(B) Safe and healthy working conditions.
(C) Maximum working hours.
(D) Equal rights for promotion.
(E) Female workers have a right to vacation during pregnancy, keeping all advantages of work. This article does not limit rights given before to employees.
(13) -- (A) Property from the community and the individual has a function within the community.
(B) Expropriation can only take place for the sake of the whole community social rights and duties.
(14) -- (A) The family is recognised and protected; male and female are equals and every child has a right to be protected. Parents have equal responsibilities for legitimate and illegitimate children.
(15) -- (A) Regional organisations are created to stimulate real democracy.
(16) -- (A) Everyone has a right to education.
(17) -- (A) The government has a duty to create the circumstances for equal chances to be educated, to lift illiteracy, to guaratnee primary and secondary education and to create possibilities for all levels of education.
(18) -- (A) Education is free, but the government controls the level of education.
(19) -- (A) Science and technology will be stimulated.
(20) -- (A) The cultural heritage shall be kept and protected.